

'Grandma Knows Best,' Health Officer Claims

What's the latest scientific development in the field of infant health? Believe it or not, it's the old-fashioned rocking chair just like Grandma used to have, Dr. Roy O. Gilbert, Los Angeles County health officer, revealed this week.

Not only is this almost out-moded piece of furniture staging a successful return engagement in the homes of brand-new parents, it is now making its appearance in some of the most modern maternity hospitals. This fact should be good news to nurses as well as babies, Dr. Gilbert said.

The theory behind the rocking chair idea is one that Grandma discovered long ago but never found time to write a book about, because she just took it for granted that everybody knew that a baby liked to be held, especially when being fed, and why not be comfortable about it?

Modern day pediatricians and psychiatrists, Dr. Gilbert said, also claim that a baby should be held while being fed because of "physiological and emotional needs of the child," a theory which also fits quite well into the rocking chair idea. Then too, the modern theory of "permissive" infant training advises that a baby should not be forced into a set schedule which might restrict his individual needs to a point where his early life would tend to become a time of struggle and conflict.

"Certainly there has not, to my knowledge," the doctor said, "been anything invented so far which could possibly surpass the rocking chair in making a baby forget all about struggle and conflict. This piece of furniture also fits admirably into the modern theory that a baby gets lonesome, just as you or I, and therefore craves human companionship.

"Although not specifically stated in the voluminous treatises on infant care, it is just possible that a baby likes to be rocked back and forth for the reason that he just likes to be rocked back and forth.

"Anyway, we seem to be getting back to some of the better ideas that Grandma had about taking care of a baby. Whenever she is accused of "spoiling" the new grandchild, she can point with authority to the numerous statements of pediatricians and psychiatrists that every baby needs constant love and affection. If such attentions are denied, they say, it may actually affect the baby's development.

"One of the latest practices in the care of the newborn is allowing the baby to stay in the same room with the mother while she is in the hospital. Grandma took this practice for granted, but today it is hailed as the modern "rooming in" plan.

"But Grandma's complete vindication, it seems, is the return to the rocking chair, which makes us think too that there's no law against getting one, even if you don't have a baby!"

BABY OF THE WEEK



LITTLE TV QUEEN . . . Blonde, blue-eyed, and dimpled Laura Lee Robertson, daughter of the R. M. Robertsons, 115 W. 221st St., tells the good news that she was picked "Baby of the Week" to her dog, Prissy. The two-year-old siren appeared on the "Crosby's Calling" television show last Thursday as "Baby of the Day" and made a reappearance yesterday afternoon when the TV audience voted her the "Baby of the Week." Four-year-old sister Lana also is in a TV spotlight; she will be a hostess tomorrow afternoon over Bill Stulla's "Castle of Dreams" show which is telecast at 2 p.m. over Channel 4, Station KNBH. (Herald photo)

Churchwomen Make Final Bazaar Plans

Final preparations for next Thursday's bazaar, to be held at the Methodist Church, will be made by six circles of the Women's Society of Christian Service next week.

Naomi Circle, which will sell holiday goodies of minicmeat and fruit cake and many other items for the pantry shelf at the event, will meet at 8 p.m. Tuesday at the 1620 Manuel Ave. home of Mrs. John Taylor.

Four other circles, Ruth, Esther, Martha, and Sarah, will discuss final arrangements over a noon potluck luncheon at the church Wednesday, while Deborah Circle will continue its planning at the 17206 Falda Ave. home of Mrs. Robert Schroeder that evening at 8 o'clock.

The bazaar will feature all types of needlework, aprons, and a baked food table. A country store, with a lunch counter open all day, will be featured by Rachel Circle, while Mary Circle will sell Christmas gifts.

Health Takes PTA Spotlight

Physical health of children and mental health of their parents highlighted Tuesday of last week at Normont School.

During the morning, pupils were immunized for diphtheria and tetanus, and during the afternoon, the PTA heard a talk on mental health by Mrs. Beatrice Christensen, school nurse. Mrs. George Wacker, an Association leader, led the pledge of allegiance, and the kindergarten tots entertained with songs. Mrs. Elizabeth Jordan, principal, read several poems.

The PTA currently is conducting a sewing class for women each Thursday morning from 9 to 11:30 o'clock at the school, Mrs. Josephine Robinson is the instructor.

Cowboys Ride Birthday Cake Range for R. Rojo

Rootin' tootin' cowboys, heroes to most little boys, rode the birthday cake range at the 460 Calle de Castellana home of the Robert Rojos Monday when their son, Robin, became a "big man" of five.

Six little friends helped Robin celebrate the fun-packed day. Two tykes, Michael John Rasmussen and Bootee Elchal, took home prizes for their skill in afternoon games. Others sharing the festivities were Christine Elchal, Stephen Raymond, Jimmy Wallace, and Mary Work.

CARD PARTY SET BY WOMEN'S CLUB

Local card-playing enthusiasts row night when the Wilmington Denni Sta. Division will be awarded for scores in all games, and will have an opportunity to test Women's Club holds a card refreshments will be served, their skills against those of party at 8 o'clock at the Club according to the chairman, Mrs. other lovers of the deck tomorrow, corner of Lakme and L. A. Hulsey.



...and heaven (well, almost) for parents who travel with children. Children love to ride on S.P. trains because it's fun. And parents like to travel on S.P. because they can relax and enjoy themselves—thanks to the special children's services we provide.

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BEGIN TICKET SALES FOR DEC. 5 MARIONETTE SHOW

Tickets for "Rumplestiltskin," a marionette show to be sponsored by North Torrance PTA Saturday, Dec. 5, are now on sale. Mrs. Francis Stoekle, Association president, reported this week.

Ducats, priced at 20 cents for children and 30 cents for adults, may be obtained at the North Torrance School or from a new PTA member, she said. Performances are scheduled all day, beginning at 10 a.m., and proceeds will be added to the PTA child welfare fund.

Over 200 members heard of plans for the show when they gathered at the school auditorium Wednesday of last week for the regular monthly meeting.

ing. Story of the social studies program highlighted the evening.

Colored slides, including many of North Torrance students, showed the social studies curriculum, and each class demonstrated what it is learning. At the demonstration, a panel of four instructors, John Strum, and Mesdames Clyde Trolinger, Valda Pilgrim, and Geraldine Mertens, answered questions.

A total of 806 names are now on the Association membership roster, Mrs. Stoekle said. Fifth and sixth grade mothers shared hostess honors during the social hour following the business session.

School Principal Warns PTA About Report Card Attitudes

"School is a part of life, but a report card is only an evaluation of your child's records and should not be used as a yardstick for measuring one child against another," Mrs. Avis Creech, principal, said Thursday of last week to Harbor City PTA members meeting at the school auditorium.

The administrator also reported that the school has been promised several new permanent classrooms by next September, according to the building department of the Board of Education. Other program highlights included "Red River Valley," presented in square dance style by Mrs. Cleon Isom's fifth grade class, while business session features were a reading of the laws by the parliamentarian, Mrs. George Wacker, an Association vote to purchase a three-speed record player with speed control for the school; and an announcement by Mrs. Lewis Learnard, parent education chairman, that child study booklets now are available to members. Peggy Ann Triffon and Diana Willoughby of Brownie Troop 315 led the pledge of allegiance to the flag, while Mrs. Richard Rozendal gave the inspirational message, "Thanksgiving Prayer." Table decorations for the refreshment hour following the business meeting carried out a Thanksgiving pattern, with turkeys, fruits, and vegetables. Members of the faculty were hosts and hostesses.

Businessmen's Dance Draws Large Crowd

A large crowd enjoyed an evening of fun and dancing and at the same time added financially to the club youth fund when the Walteria Businessmen's Club held its sixth annual turkey dance at the Walteria Recreation Hall Saturday night last week, Loring Bigelow, president, reported this week.

Sol Frisina and his orchestra provided music for the affair, and Thanksgiving turkeys were won by C. C. Wood, C. O. Middleton, G. S. Munyer, J. J. Chaudron, J. V. Ogleby, and Mrs. E. Boyd of Walteria; Taylor Woods, R. Robertson, and R. S. Sleeth Jr. of Torrance; Paul Meacham of Lomita; Irene Goldstone of Redondo Beach; and R. Hovey of Los Angeles.

The club is now drawing final plans for its annual Christmas party, to be held for the children of Walteria on Dec. 18 at the Walteria School Auditorium. Entertainment will be provided, and free gifts will be distributed by Santa Claus.

First Graders Show PTA How They Learn To Read

"Progress through Education," with a demonstration of reading techniques as the program spotlight, themed the November meeting of Torrance Elementary PTA.

Two first grade classes conducted the demonstration, showing how they were taught to look from left to right in learning to read. The demonstration brought out the point that although they could read quite well for first graders, they did not know their ABCs, for they were taught to recognize words rather than individual letters. Knowledge of the alphabet will come as reading progresses.

The meeting, opened with a pledge of allegiance led by Brownie Troop 236, featured the election of Vice-principal George Marich and Mrs. W. Colburn to the life membership committee. Mrs. Lee Polick was elected to the Council nominating committee.

Story of the rapid growth of Torrance and the ways and means of providing adequate schools to accommodate this growth, which was the highlight of a recent TTAC session, was told by Mrs. H. Heinlein. Problems and some of the constructive help offered to children at Juvenile Hall were related by Mrs. J. D. Dutton.

That's the purpose of the Women's Chorus now meeting every Tuesday evening from 7:30 to 9:30 o'clock at North Torrance Elementary School, Mrs. H. E. Carr, president of the sponsoring Torrance Council PTA, said this week. New members are needed, and an open invitation is given to all women who like to sing to join the chorus, she said. Those interested may come to the meetings or call her at FAirfax 8-1884.

Ladies' Chorus Sings for Fun

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AT 4 O'CLOCK SUNDAY

Sisters Take Honor Positions For Graves-Halverson Rites

Sisters of the bride and groom will be attendants Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock when Lester Graves and Miss Alice Halverson link names in marriage at ceremonies in the First Baptist Church here.

Miss Halverson has chosen her sister, Mrs. Carl Fitzgibbons of Wilmington, with whom she has been making her home, as her maid of honor, and Mrs. Joe Moine, who has opened her Wilmington home to her brother, the groom, as her bridesmaid.

Others making up the bridal entourage are Joe Moine, brother-in-law of the groom, best man; Miss Susan Moine, the groom's niece; flower girl; Dale Fitzgibbons, the bride's nephew; ring bearer; Tony Moine, another brother-in-law, and Danny Breiner, a close friend, usher.

The Rev. C. M. Northrup will conduct the marriage service, and a reception will follow at the

church. Following a brief honeymoon the couple plans to live in Wilmington.

Graves, son of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Graves of Simi, Calif., attended Torrance and Banning high schools. He served two years as a corporal in the U. S. Army and is a veteran of the Korean campaign.

FRIENDS GATHER AT FRED BOREN HOME

Joining the Fred Borens at their 1318 Elm Ave. home last Saturday night for dinner were Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Walls, 2806 Pacific Coast Hwy. and Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Smith of Belmont Shore.

Mrs. Boren chose newly-picked roses from her garden to center the dinner table and planned games of tripool for evening entertainment. A prize for high score went to Smith.

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